[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] — [illegible] — [illegible] — [illegible] — [illegible] — [illegible] — [illegible] — [illegible]

[illegible]

THE beliefs described in the last chapter are essentially religious since they display an attitude of respect and often of propitiation to supernatural powers having greater strength than human beings. This is still true to the earlier sections and, though less noticeable, is present also in those concerning diseases since these are here themselves regarded chiefly as being due to a place slightly removed from that of their fellows. Theoretically, it seems as if a clear division might be drawn between the concepts just recorded and others of a magical nature to which, although the element of contact with the supernatural is present, yet the end desired is obtained by the mere performance of an action. In the Bells Creek area, a slight overlap between the two types. For example, the separation of an object from which supernatural power formerly was to prevent it religious, but to use it virtually magical since once obtained, neither supplication nor further favours are necessary. Nevertheless, it is possible to separate most magical beliefs from most religious ones, though it must be emphasized that the attempt is too distinct in the native than it appears to the white man.

It is difficult to find a clear dividing line between religion and magic. It is impossible to draw one between the terms and

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[illegible]

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[illegible] The Bella Coola are a small tribe inhabiting the coast of [illegible] Province, from the long and narrow fiords situated in about latitude 52° north, in British Columbia. Their habitat extends along Bella Coola River, which empties into North Bentinck Arm. The name 'Bella Coola' is corruption of the word 'Nuxalk,' by which name the tribe is known to the Kwakiutl. There is no term to their own language embracing all the tribes speaking the Bella Coola language. It seems that at a former time the tribe was quite populous; but, owing to various epidemics and the introduction of other diseases, its numbers have dwindled down, so that [illegible] the present time it has been reduced to only a few hundred souls. The [illegible] language spoken by the tribe belongs to the Salishan family, more particularly to the group of dialects spoken along the coast of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. The great similarity between the Bella Coola and the other Coast-Salishan dialects leads me to assume that at one time the tribes speaking these dialects inhabited contiguous areas. In the present time the Bella Coola are separated from other tribes speaking Salishan languages by a considerable stretch of country, which is inhabited by tribes of Athapascan and Kwakiutl lineage. Vocabulary and grammar have been [illegible] materially by an extensive admixture of words. The tribe [illegible] its dialect to the other districts of the Coast Salish to evolve as far as the Tillamook, another language belonging to the Salishan family, [illegible] spoken on the coast of Oregon, to an area separated from the rest [illegible] Salishan territory by the district inhabited by the Chinook.

[illegible] Physically the Bella Coola have evidence of long-continued contact with [illegible] northern Coast-tribes, and also with the Athapascan tribes of the interior. [illegible] characteristics have been quite frequent, as much as one-half [illegible] showing distinct appearance differs considerably from that of the northern Salishan tribes, of whom they form a branch. The same is true in regard to their customs and beliefs, which differ fundamentally from those of the [illegible] Salishan tribes.

[illegible] In the present paper I shall describe the mythology of the Bella Coola, its origin, and its development.

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[illegible] Our previous knowledge of the mythology of this tribe is based on [illegible] made by Adrian Jacobsen, Philip Jacobsen, Chittenden, and the writer. [illegible] I published a few brief notes on their traditions.[1] Chittenden pub-

[illegible]

[1] Traditions der Bella Coolamer in Zeitschrift für Ethnologie, Verhandlungen der Berliner Ges. f. Anthr., Ethn. u. Urgesch., 1894, pp. [illegible]

[illegible]

(4)

[illegible]

(5)

[illegible]